Description: Reading books and singing songs are a great way to teach your child language. Adding books and songs with repetitive versus are even better because they are predictable. Your child will learn the word(s) that come next from the constant reduplication of the same words. This will eventually allow your child to say these words independently.

Tips!

1. Have your child face you, so he/she can see your face for word production and facial expressions.
2. Read the book/sing the song over-and-over. It is okay!
3. Be sure to change your vocal inflection. Be expressive with your facial expressions.
4. After reading the book/singing the song several times (may be days), stop at certain points to allow your child to fill in a sound or word.
5. Books - each time you turn the page – use these words “turn the page.” After turning a few pages, start to turn the page (but don’t), and pause to see if your child will attempt to say the word “turn” or phrase “turn the page.”
6. Point to pictures on the page and label the nouns and verbs. After several repetitions of this routine, pause and have your child answer the question “What is this?”

Examples of Repetitive Books:
Brown Bear, Brown Bear – by Bill Martin & Eric Carle
The Very Hungry Caterpillar – by Eric Carle
Yummy Yucky – by Leslie Patricelli
I Can Do That – by Dr. Suzy Lederer
Goodnight Moon – by Margaret Wise Brown
Are You My Mother – by P.D. Eastman
Pete the Cat – by Eric Litwin
Repetitive Songs:
Wheels on the Bus                      Humpty Dumpty
Itsy Bitsy Spider                     This Little Piggy
Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star         Peek-A-Boo
Old MacDonald had a Farm             Ring Around The Rosie
Happy and You Know It                Jingle Bells
Row, Row, Row Your Boat              ABC’s

How to Use the Strategy:

Brown Bear, Brown Bear
*After reading book several times
Caregiver: “Brown bear, brown bear what do you (pause)?”
Child: “see!”
Caregiver: “I see a yellow duck looking at (pause)?”
Child: “Me!”

Wheels on The Bus:
*After reading book several times
Caregiver: “The wheels on the bus go round and _____”
Child: “Round!”
Caregiver: “The windows on the bus go up and _____”
Child: “Down!”

Reading Very Hungry Caterpillar:
*After reading the book several times
Child: “Sun!”